



Horsham
District
Council

Horsham Park Management Plan



1.0 Aim of the Management Plan

This document aims to set out the proposed management of Horsham Park for a period of 10 years, from 2008 to 2017. This Plan follows on from the previous Management Plan for Horsham Park, which was adopted in 1994. The Plan has been formulated following extensive public consultation, which is outlined in Section 2.5.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Overall Description

Horsham Park is an attractive area of parkland in central Horsham (central grid reference TQ175310), consisting of a total area of 60 acres (24 hectares) with boundaries to the north of Hurst Road, to the east of North Street, with Madeira Avenue and London Road to the south and North Parade to the west. The Park consists mainly of open grassland, including mown parkland, sports pitches and some areas of longer grasses, and a central pond. In amongst this open landscape there are numerous areas of planted shrubs and a large number of trees of varying species (with a mixture of native and exotic) and ages. The boundaries of the Park are generally more heavily wooded, with lines of mature trees, woodland strips and hedgerow. The Park is also home to a number of impressive veteran trees. Incorporated into this landscape are a



number of facilities designed to offer a wide variety of leisure activities to visitors, ranging from formal sports areas (for example tennis courts, bowls green, skatepark and football pitches) and family leisure facilities (such as the children's play area and Millennium Maze) to gardens (including the Park House gardens and tea garden) and wildlife zones (such as the pond). At the perimeter of the Park lies the extremely popular Pavilions in the Park leisure complex. Running through the Park and

connecting all of these areas is a network of well-surfaced paths.

The high landscape value of the Park, its location and its variety of features and facilities encourages a large number of visitors throughout the year. This is an extremely popular recreational area, with a very high satisfaction rating of visitors: In a survey of visitors conducted in 2005, 86% of respondents were satisfied with the Park. The Park has won a number of accolades and awards for its upkeep and management in recent years, such as the South East in Bloom 'Best Park' award and the West Sussex County Times 'Best Place' award. The Park is also a key focal point of the 'Britain in Bloom' awards, in which Horsham has an outstanding record. Locally the Park remains a much admired and appreciated green space in the centre of a thriving town.

Horsham Park is managed by Horsham District Council's Parks Services Unit (PSU), within the Directorate of Community Services. The

Council also works in partnership with a number of voluntary organisations (see Section 3.2.3) who play an active role in the care of the Park and its facilities.

The Plan in **Appendix 1** shows Horsham Park, its boundaries and compartments. Each compartment is described in Section 5.

2.2 Brief History

Horsham Park was private property until the early to mid 20th Century. From an agricultural beginning, the land, in different plots, passed through various ownerships to the Hurst family by the end of the 18th Century.

While the history of the Park is not well documented, records do provide occasional glimpses of the use of the area. For example, in the early 19th Century, the owners held a huge party on the grounds, with a sit-down meal for 3000 guests, to celebrate the end of

hostilities with France. The Hurst family also began to allow some public use of the land for sports such as bowls, the old Sussex game of stoolball and archery (and Horsham Football Club is known to have held a match on the land in 1892). A watercolour in Horsham Museum from this period suggests that the public were able to freely access and use much of the land.

The Council (Horsham Urban District Council at the time) purchased the land in several different lots between 1923 and 1950, and during this time the land was described as the 'Pleasure Grounds'. The Council subsequently made improvements and started to add facilities: A putting green in 1932, swimming pool in 1934 and tennis courts in 1937. Events were also organised and in 1965 the Sussex County Agricultural Society held their annual show in the Park.

Park House also has an interesting history, dating back to the 16th Century when it was built as a timber-framed house of a style common in the town at the time. In the 1720s the house was remodelled as a fashionable residence for the wealthy landowner and M.P. John Wicker (Member of Parliament 1701 -1713) but passed in time with the surrounding land to the Hurst family.



2.3 General Description of the Landscape

Horsham Park lies at approximately 50m above sea level on Wealden clay, with dense shale beneath and sandstone bedrock underneath. Lying on clay, the Park is naturally wet with water readily retained by the soils, although there are some small sandier areas, for example around the Nursery School site (Compartment 2) and within the former putting green area (Compartment 9).

Most of the Park slopes and drains towards the Pond, but some areas see water lying on the surface for some time in wet periods. During dry periods the clay soil tends to dry out and crack.

Old clay drainage systems have been identified within the Park, probably from some distant agricultural past, but appear to have little impact on current drainage. Significant drainage works were carried out in the 1990s under the sports pitches, with follow up works since.

The Park is generally gently undulating, with several slightly higher viewpoint areas in the Children's Play Area and near the Superbowl complex. There is also a raised ridge near the Nursery School site.

2.4 Roles and Uses

Horsham Park is an extremely popular town centre green space with a locally important amenity and landscape value. The Park welcomes a wide range of users taking part in a variety of different activities:

- ✿ Informal recreation: Walking, dog walking, sitting, picnicing, exercising, socialising, experiencing nature, jogging, cycling, taking fresh air, informal play, such as flying kites and other informal sports, skateboarding and streetsports, using the Trim Trail and orienteering course, enjoyment of the children's play area, Maze and gardens and the general landscape features of the Park;
- ✿ Formal recreation: Playing organised sports on the areas provided, including football, tennis and bowls;
- ✿ Access to facilities at the Park edges, including the Pavilions in the Park leisure

centre, Superbowl and the Conservatory café;

- ✿ Using the Park as a traffic-free through route for cyclists and pedestrians.

The management prescriptions proposed in this Plan take into account the needs of each of these user groups in seeking to ensure the Park continues to accommodate wide ranging use and enjoyment in safe circumstances.

2.5 Public Feedback

Extensive research and consultation has been carried out prior to the production of this Plan:

- ✿ Horsham Park User Survey, published in 2006;
- ✿ Informal public consultation (ongoing);
- ✿ 'Arts in the Park' study in 2004;
- ✿ Monitoring of usage of Park and issues by Parks Services staff (ongoing);
- ✿ Monitoring of correspondence concerning Horsham Park received by Parks Services officers (ongoing);
- ✿ Report to HDC Cabinet: 'Horsham Park - Issues and Proposals' (9 February 2006).

Feedback gathered during this consultation has been recorded and analysed and the results have been used to advise and inform the aims, objectives and prescriptions in this Plan. All feedback received was considered in the production of this Plan.

2.6 Overall Aims and Objectives

Section 3 of this Plan details in-depth aims, objectives and management prescriptions for Horsham Park under separate areas and user issues. These prescriptions have been formulated following consultation, and a broad outline of the aims and objectives for Horsham Park can be presented as follows:

- 1. To provide a safe, clean and attractive green space for enjoyment by all members of the community;**
- 2. To protect, maintain and develop the landscape of the Park to complement and enhance its aesthetic appeal;**

- 3. To provide a safe, well maintained and accessible location for appropriate formal and informal leisure activities;**
- 4. To maintain the general balance between formal and more naturally managed areas of the Park;**
- 5. To maintain and enhance the quality of horticultural features;**
- 6. To protect and increase the bio-diversity and wildlife value of appropriate areas of the Park;**
- 7. To plan the appropriate long-term management of the Park to continue to meet the above aims into the future (beyond the 10 year life-span of this Plan).**
- 8. To strive towards increasingly using the Park as an educational tool, both formally and informally.**

Horsham Park is an extremely popular site which plays a very important part in the lives of many local residents. An 86% approval rating in the 2005 User Survey shows that the vast majority of visitors are satisfied with the Park, its upkeep and facilities. Therefore the over-riding aim of this Management Plan, and the Park's management in general, must be to maintain the high standards which have been achieved in the past, to maintain the general landscape and ambience of the area and to continue to provide a quality service which will meet the high expectations of the Park's visitors.

2.7 Landscape and Maintenance

Horsham Park provides an attractive, well-maintained setting for a wide variety of activities. Long term planning is necessary to maintain and enhance this attractive landscape for future generations to enjoy. The following proposals will seek to appropriately maintain the landscape for the short, medium and long term:

- ✿ To maintain the existing balance between formal and more natural planting styles, ranging from the more formal horticultural

areas on the eastern (Park House) side of the Park through to more natural, less managed 'countryside' approach towards the north-western boundaries.

- ✿ A planned long-term approach to tree replacement of weak or diseased trees where necessary with suitable younger specimens;
- ✿ Continuing tree restocking over the long-term, on a manageable scale, to provide mature and veteran trees for the future;
- ✿ Management of shrub areas to maintain their visual appeal through pruning and, where appropriate, regeneration of areas through remodelling;
- ✿ A balanced grass cutting regime to provide appropriate areas of short mown grass as well as some areas of longer vegetation;
- ✿ Regular maintenance of ornamental planting and floral displays to provide attractive features throughout the year, but with an emphasis on sustainable, drought-resistant planting as a result of recent water shortages;
- ✿ Regular maintenance of hedges with cutting, laying and replanting as necessary;
- ✿ Leaf collecting during the Autumn as necessary;
- ✿ Regular ditch maintenance, with strimming or flailing of vegetation, as necessary;
- ✿ Continuing the high standard of litter picking, rubbish clearance and graffiti removal through all areas of the Park.
- ✿ To ensure ease of access, a minimum pathway width of 1.5m should be provided wherever possible. This standard should be particularly be applied where path maintenance / improvement works are being carried out.

2.8 Ecology

There are a number of steps that can be incorporated into the general management of the Park in order to increase wildlife value:

- ✿ Planting of native species of trees and shrubs where appropriate. Native species (e.g. Oak, Hawthorn, Field Maple) support more wildlife than exotics;
- ✿ Installation of bird and bat boxes in suitable locations;
- ✿ Less frequent grass cutting in some areas to encourage regeneration of native grasses and wildflowers;



- ✿ Cutting and collecting of grass in some areas to reduce soil nutrient levels which will encourage a more diverse flora;
- ✿ Management of hedges to provide better habitat;
- ✿ Selective pruning of vegetation to reduce shade and encourage ground flora;
- ✿ Retention of dead wood, both standing dead wood and log piles, wherever appropriate as an important habitat for wildlife such as insects and fungi;
- ✿ Retention of veteran trees, even if this necessitates tree surgery, for as long as possible;
- ✿ Limited use of coppicing of hazel where appropriate to provide habitat. These techniques involve cutting of certain trees and allowing them to re-grow to provide dense growth which provides good habitat for insects and nesting birds;
- ✿ Planting fruiting trees and shrubs (e.g. Cherry, Rowan, Blackthorn) and encouraging growth of fruiting plants (e.g. Blackberry) where appropriate to provide food for wildlife, including winter food for birds;
- ✿ Planting nectar-producing plants for insects, including certain flowering trees and shrubs (e.g. Blackthorn, Gorse, Honeysuckle);
- ✿ Selective control of rats so as not to significantly affect populations of other rodents, e.g. mice and voles;

- ✿ Encouraging the monitoring of wildlife on the site through a planned programme of surveying;
- ✿ Avoiding works that will cause disturbance to trees during bird nesting season (Mid-March to Mid-September);
- ✿ Actively prevent the spread of non-native species with a highly invasive nature (such as American Skunk Cabbage, Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and ornamental pond weeds such as Canadian Pondweed, Parrot-feather and New Zealand Pygmyweed).



- ✿ To maintain an effective network of well-surfaced and well maintained paths through the Park, with repairs, resurfacing and path sweeping as necessary;
- ✿ To carry out regular vegetation clearance alongside paths to keep routes open and easily accessible;
- ✿ To maintain wheelchair and pushchair access at all (ten) official points of entry to the Park;
- ✿ To provide a regular and frequent on-site presence with clearly identifiable Parks staff;
- ✿ To prioritise visitor safety through on-site presence and improved lighting (although perception of visitor safety was high in the 2005 User Survey, with only 7% feeling unsafe);
- ✿ To take necessary measures to prohibit unauthorised vehicle access onto the site;
- ✿ To provide well maintained and hygienic toilet facilities for Park users and ensure that they are well signed;
- ✿ To provide regularly emptied litter bins and dog bins;
- ✿ To clear litter from all areas of the Park on a daily basis;
- ✿ To provide a suitable number of benches in appropriate locations around the Park;
- ✿ To ensure surfaced wheelchair 'parking' areas are provided adjacent to park benches in all appropriate and accessible locations whenever new / refurbished seating is planned.
- ✿ To provide and maintain an appropriate amount of signage and visitor information on notice boards around the Park;

3.0 Providing for Park Users

3.1 Main User Group Categories and Specific Prescriptions

3.1.1 All User Groups

The Council will seek to meet the needs of all user groups through the following management proposals:

- ✿ To maintain and protect the attractive appearance and landscape of the Park;

- ✿ To maintain visual screening of neighbouring properties from the Park;
- ✿ To maintain and enhance the number of interesting artistic features around the Park in accordance with the 2004 'Arts in the Park' study;
- ✿ To carry out small-scale drainage works as necessary to allow easy access across the Park;
- ✿ To undertake a comprehensive regular planned system of site inspection, including a regular inspection of all facilities, with a daily inspection of the children's play area including recording of the inspection;



- ✿ To undertake necessary repair works as soon as possible to minimise inconvenience to visitors;
- ✿ To undertake all works in a safe manner, meeting relevant Health and Safety legislation;
- ✿ To develop partnerships with relevant organisations (e.g. Police, Youth Service, Collyers College, the Council's

Community Safety Team) to seek to address antisocial activities, including antisocial behaviour, misuse of drugs and alcohol, littering, dog fouling and inappropriate activities;

- ✿ To review and update the current Park byelaws.

3.1.2 Walking and Dog Walking

This is the most common activity in Horsham Park, with around 70% of Park visitors questioned in the 2006 User Survey saying they took part in this activity, with 16% being dog walkers. People visiting the Park on foot may do so either specifically or as a through route.

Surfaced paths provide suitable routes for walkers irrespective of ground conditions. These need to be adequately maintained for reasons of safety and convenience.

Management Proposals

The Council will seek to encourage walking through a variety of broad management measures across all areas of the Park:

- ✿ Removal of vegetation in areas of constriction along the pathway where possible to allow easier pedestrian access and to enhance a feeling of security;
- ✿ Maintain levels at sides of paths to avoid trip hazards;
- ✿ To provide well maintained and regularly emptied dog bins at appropriate locations;
- ✿ To ensure that key pedestrian routes are effectively lit (56% of respondents in the 2005 User Survey felt that lighting in Horsham Park should be improved and only 25% said it was sufficient). Priority areas for improved lighting are the links between North Street entrance and the Pavilions, the path from the Superbowl to North Parade car park and footpaths linking with the skatepark.

3.1.3 Cycling

There is a significant amount of cycling in Horsham Park. Some routes are used as convenient, safer alternatives to public roads, some users of facilities within or adjacent to the Park cycle through the Park to reach their destinations (including BMX cyclists visiting the skatepark), others cycle in the Park for recreational purposes (including children under parental supervision learning to cycle in a traffic-free environment).

25% of respondents to the 2005 User Survey identified that they cycle in the Park, while 69% of respondents considered that cycling should be permitted in the Park.

The Council resolved in 2006 to designate the perimeter path from the North Parade southern entrance to the Council Offices (former 'Library Gates' entrance) as a shared cycle/pedestrian route. This has involved widening the section of path between the Jubilee entrance and the former 'Library Gates' entrance.

The Horsham Park byelaws forbid cycling in the Park, however this restriction has not been actively enforced for many years. For the most part cyclists are sensible and avoid pedestrians and other Park users; though occasionally reckless cycling has been reported to have caused danger or distress to other users.

Management Proposals

It is proposed that cycling continue to be prohibited in the following areas: Park House Garden, the Children's Play Area, the Maze, the Tea Garden and Pond enclosure. Elsewhere in the Park it is proposed that cycling be generally permitted, and when the Horsham Park byelaws are reviewed the general prohibition on cycling be removed, except in specified locations. Signage should be installed to encourage cyclists to take care, control their speed, give way and dismount to avoid pedestrians within the Park. In specific areas (i.e. Park House Garden, the Children's Play Area, the Maze, Tea Garden and Pond enclosure) cycling will not be permitted. In addition, through a combination of barriers (chicanes) and signage cyclists will be encouraged to take extra care in

the area from the Park podium to the western entrance to Park House Garden (i.e. in the vicinity of the Conservatory Café) as this is a heavily used pedestrian area, and at Park access points with particular attention to the subway access path from the Jubilee entrance.

3.1.4 Trim Trail

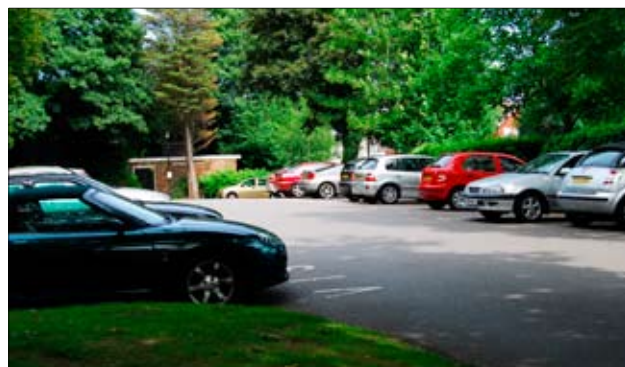
The trim trail provides an open air exercise facility to encourage informal use of the Park. There are eight exercise units in a circular trail around the perimeter path and this trail will be maintained to a safe standard to provide an attractive facility for the future, with repair or replacement of units as necessary. Some equipment is now reaching the end of its life and will be replaced. The potential to make the trim trail more attractive and accessible to all age groups will be investigated. An information board will be installed to advertise the trail and provide information for users.

3.2 Issues and Further Specific Management Prescriptions Concerning these Issues

3.2.1 Car Parking

A significant percentage of visitors travel by car to Horsham Park (around 36% in the 2005 User Survey) and there are a number of parking areas used by visitors driving to the Park (subject to parking charges and restrictions at varying times):

- North Parade car park;
- Hurst Road (Pavilions) car park;
- Park House car park;
- Chennells car park (evenings and weekends only)
- Other town centre car parks and nearby on-street parking.



It is the Council's view that the above parking is generally sufficient for the Park's visitors. The Park's car parks will be maintained to provide safe parking, including disabled parking provision, for visitors in the long-term.

It is planned that the Superbowl car park will be managed as a public pay and display car park, following the planned improvements to the Jubilee Entrance. Parking in this area will however be primarily provided for users of the Superbowl facility.

3.2.2 Interpretation and Events

Public education is important in promoting an understanding of the Park, its features and facilities, wildlife habitats and importance, and thereby fostering a sense of ownership by the community. An education programme should seek to provide information to the public through a variety of media:

- ✿ Information on the internet and in general Council literature;
- ✿ Press releases;
- ✿ On site notice boards;
- ✿ Educational events on site.

Although there are already a number of facilities designed partly to attract visitors and encourage them to explore the Park, such as the trim trail and orienteering course, a new educational

trail is proposed specifically to encourage visitors to take more note of the natural history of the Park. A 'tree trail' would draw on the impressive resource of the Park in terms of the variety of tree species growing here and link in with the Horsham Society's 'Trees of Horsham Park' publication. A numbered trail (of vandal proof design) would guide visitors around the different areas of the Park via a route of different trees of note or interest to the visitor, with a corresponding leaflet giving information on species, identification, nature, habit, wildlife value, etc.

Events routinely take place throughout the summer, such as the popular 'Parkfest' event, fairs, circuses, the Schools' Country Dance festival, County Times Motor show and podium music every weekend. Surveys suggest that further events would be welcomed, although this needs to be balanced against the need to be considerate to nearby residents and other Park users who may not wish to participate in such events.

Large scale summer concerts have previously been held in the Park, and it is considered to be a suitable venue for a limited number of such events subject to licencing requirements. Horsham District Council holds a Premises Licence for Regulated Entertainment for events in the Park up to a maximum of 5,000 visitors.



3.2.3 Community Involvement

As Horsham Park is an extremely popular and important amenity, the Council is keen to ensure that there is community involvement in the development and subsequent implementation of this Management Plan. Over recent years a number of community based organisations, including Friends of Horsham Park, Horsham in Bloom, Horsham Streetsports Association and Park user groups, have assisted the Council in the development and implementation of proposals and projects for the Park (e.g. Millennium Maze, 'Scattered Seeds' art project, Community Garden Scheme and Skate Park improvements).

Management Proposals

It is proposed to continue to engage with community and user groups and individual Park users in respect of the management, operation and development of Horsham Park. This will be achieved through the following means:

- ✿ Seeking feedback on the Consultation Draft Horsham Park Management Plan 2008 - 2017;
- ✿ Continuing to work with appropriate groups on identified improvement/development projects;
- ✿ Consulting with local Councillors, Denne Neighbourhood Council and the Cabinet Member for Leisure in all significant proposals for Horsham Park;
- ✿ Providing information on-site, in local media and via the Council's website regarding significant forthcoming projects and works;
- ✿ Ensuring that appropriate contact information is made available and publicised to enable interested parties to obtain further information about matters relating to the Park, and to enable them to provide feedback regarding the service and facilities;
- ✿ Encouraging volunteer input into appropriate tasks and projects around the Park;
- ✿ Continuing to liaise with the Friends of Horsham Park to consider issues relating to the management, use and operation of Horsham Park;
- ✿ Undertake comprehensive visitor surveys at least every five years.

3.2.4 Lighting

The User Survey indicates that people generally feel safe being in the Park during daylight hours. After dark, key routes around the park are lit, and requests have been made to extend this to include routes across the centre of Horsham Park. Such calls have been resisted to date due to the 'urbanising' impact that this would have. The route which has been identified as requiring improved lighting is that between the North Street Subway and the Pavilions. A number of requests have also been received for improved lighting between the Pavilions and the skatepark.



3.2.5 Antisocial Behaviour

Horsham Park has had few serious incidents of crime or anti-social behaviour in recent years. The 2005 User Survey indicates that the vast majority of users feel safe using the Park during daylight hours, although some users are uncomfortable using the Park at dusk and in the hours of darkness.

The PSU (Parks Services Unit) works in close liaison with the Council's Community Safety Staff and the Police regarding crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour issues. This includes attending regular partnership meetings with the

police and working routinely with local Police Community Liaison Officers.

While more serious antisocial behaviour and disorder incidents occur from time to time, which are dealt with by the Police, public concern about antisocial behaviour in Horsham Park tends to focus on litter, dog fouling and vandalism.

The Council recently appointed a Park Ranger with specific responsibility for Horsham Park. The benefits of having a permanent member of staff dedicated to Horsham Park providing a deterrent, as well as education and maintenance role, are already becoming apparent.

a. Littering

Littering is a matter which is of serious concern to the Council. On the morning after a warm summers evening the Park Rangers often spend the equivalent of six hours purely picking up the rubbish left behind by litterers. Dealing with littering is an ongoing challenge and demands a multi-faceted approach, involving education, sufficient provision of bins and the threat of prosecution.

Actions for 2008 include:

- ✿ Seeking to keep the Park as free from litter as possible to set a high standard of cleanliness.
- ✿ An anti-littering campaign displaying high impact posters.
- ✿ Large temporary rubbish containers placed in strategic locations where groups of people tend to gather during the high summer months.
- ✿ Park Rangers to continue to engage



with groups of young people, and encourage them to take a responsible approach to litter.

- ✿ Engaging with young people from Collyers 6th Form College and supporting them to develop publicity material to highlight the issue.
- ✿ Planned deployment of Street Scene Wardens to enforce bylaws.

b. Dog Fouling

During the past 10 years the level of dog fouling has significantly dropped in Horsham Park.

This reduction is due in part to dog fouling being



increasingly recognised by society as a form of antisocial behaviour. There remain, however, a persistent minority who refuse to collect up after their dogs, despite the availability of bins.

From time to time there are incidents when dog bins are full to capacity, or are blocked preventing further usage. It is the intention of the Council to minimise such occurrences.

It is anticipated that the deployment of Street Scene Wardens will provide the necessary resources to further enforce the dog fouling bylaws.

c. Vandalism

Incidents of vandalism in Horsham Park are generally low. Most incidents that are recorded appear to be alcohol related, with a pattern of incidents indicating vandalism takes place after dark during warm summer weekends.

Young trees appear to be most at risk, along with Park furniture. Damage to play equipment takes place on an occasional basis. All vandalism is

reported to the Police and every effort is made to clear up after vandalism as quickly as possible.

3.2.6 Community Engagement

The Council is currently partnering two youth initiatives which relate to Horsham Park.

a. Youth Support Team for Horsham Park

Horsham Park is the largest social gathering space for young people in Horsham with facilities such as the skate park making it a popular place to congregate.

The Youth Support Team was a new venture for 2007 and is led by appropriately trained and vetted youth workers and volunteers. They are present in the Park on Friday and Saturday evenings during the summer months to engage with young people, increase their awareness of support services and activities available and to point them towards appropriate advice.

This project is being led by Brighton Road Baptist Church with support from the Anglican Parish Church, Horsham District Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, Horsham District Council and West Sussex Youth Service.

b. Snack Wagon

The Snack Wagon is a year round initiative between Horsham District Council and the West Sussex Youth Service and was launched in 2003.



The Snack Wagon is a mobile café which has been covered in graffiti art to make it easy to identify. A small shelter (in the style of a marquee) is erected outside the vehicle to form a seating area which is heated by patio heaters during the winter.

The initiative has three main aims: to give young people somewhere safe to gather, to provide a base from which outreach and detached youth work can be delivered and to try and 'bridge the gap' between young people and other members of the community in areas where there have been incidents of antisocial behaviour.

The van's schedule is flexible to respond to public areas where there have been concerns regarding antisocial behaviour. It provides a positive service to young people who might otherwise be perceived as creating a nuisance on street corners.

This method of meeting young people where they are gathering has proved to be effective in enabling youth workers to engage with young people who might not otherwise access youth clubs or other sources of advice and support.

3.2.7 CCTV

CCTV covers much of Horsham Park which has the potential to act as both a deterrent and as a source of evidence. It is planned to install two further cameras; one at the North Parade Car Park and the other to increase coverage at the Skate Park.

4.0 Staffing

The Park and its grounds maintenance is managed by the Parks Services Unit (PSU). The Park is PSU's largest formal park and is its highest priority site. Practical maintenance operations, including gardening and grass cutting, are carried out by a combination of both in-house and contractor staff. Directly employed Park Rangers maintain a daily presence in Horsham Park, 365 days per year. In the autumn of 2006 a part-time Horsham Park Ranger post was created to allow a specific member of staff to focus their efforts on Horsham Park, in terms of both maintenance and also developing links with Park users and encouraging appropriate use of the area.

5.0 Detailed Description of Horsham Park and Management Prescriptions

This Section describes the Park in its entirety, divided into specific areas for the purposes of this Plan (see plan in **Appendix 1** which identifies the areas described).

Area 1: Park House and Settings

This area includes the Council offices, Conservatory Café (operating on a concession) and the Park House and Chennells car parks. The PSU manages the soft landscaping elements, which consist mostly of mature trees, with a combination of deciduous and evergreen species. One notable example is a veteran London Plane tree in the centre of the parking area near the Conservatory Café.



Management Proposals

Long-term management of this area will seek to maintain the attractive mix of native and ornamental trees around the buildings and parking areas, with tree surgery and replanting as necessary. The veteran Plane tree has become susceptible to disease and has required intensive management. Further work is likely to be needed to prolong its life, including sensitive repaving in the area. If the tree continues to decline, its loss within the term of this plan is a possibility. Continued tree planting in the area is required to maintain a balanced range of tree maturity.

Area 2: Area to North of Park House including Horsham Nursery School Site

This area is at the north-eastern corner of the Park, and lies between North Street, the Council offices (Park House complex), Hurst Road car park and the Pavilions in the Park.

A number of key access routes run through the area, including from the North Street Subway, Chennells entrance (from the railway station) and the main footpath linking the Pavilions, Council Offices, Jubilee entrance and town centre via the Albion Way Subway. There are also a number of other footpaths, a legacy of the design of this area prior to the construction of the Pavilions in the Park, which need to be rationalised. The area is well used at all times of day, mainly as a cut through. Linked to footpaths is the issue of lighting. The current level of lighting provided does not effectively illuminate the key route between North Street Subway and the Pavilions. Further lighting has been identified as a priority to meet the needs of visitor safety at night.

The area has a number of fine specimen trees, including Atlantic Cedar, Redwood, Monkey Puzzle and the largest Oak in Horsham Park. The area also includes attractive raised and valley areas which are an unusual landscape feature in the Park; the remainder of the Park is mostly flat, and this feature has an opportunity to be enhanced. However as the area is mostly used as an access route, few visitors take the opportunity to appreciate these interesting features.



Horsham Nursery School is currently situated in the centre of this compartment. The Nursery School holds many fond memories for local Horsham families, and has been housed in the current buildings since 1942, when it was erected to care for young children while the mothers were supporting the war effort preparing munitions.

In early 2008, the Nursery School will be relocating to a new purpose-built facility in Harwood Road, and the existing site will be closed down. The site is approximately 2000m² and contains a number of buildings which are of a temporary or pre-fabricated construction, and the key building is well beyond the end of its design life.

It is the responsibility of West Sussex County Council, who owns the buildings, to remove the Nursery School buildings, remove hard surfacing and return the area to parkland. If the site was cleared in this way it would present the opportunity to review this whole area, including the number and route of the paths and the landscape of the surrounding area, incorporating the adjacent rose garden. There is the potential to carry out enhancements which would significantly improve the attractiveness and visitor interest of the area and ease of access, particularly since the location of the nursery school previously limited the landscape and access improvement opportunities available. In recent years only limited works have been carried out with the prospect of major changes to the area. The Friends of Horsham Park and the Horsham Society are keen to see this site returned to parkland.

Further to the Parks Issue report in February 2006 consideration has been given to the area, and in particular whether the current buildings could be put to any other use. One suggestion was to retain the Nursery School buildings for a Community Arts and Crafts Studio for public usage. Further to investigations as to the feasibility of this project, it is considered that, given the condition of the Nursery School buildings, it would be uneconomic to pursue this approach and that the return of the area to parkland is the most appropriate option. Detailed design work is required to re-integrate the area into parkland. An outline plan has been prepared, which provides a basis for consultation and for developing a detailed plan. This is attached at **Appendix 2**.

Part of the North Street subway is historically considered as within Horsham Park. This is the area which runs from the Cedar tree, underneath the first tunnel and up to the intersection with the access slope on the eastern side of North Street. The extent is marked by some old cast iron gate pillars.

North Street subway is an extremely well used pedestrian route which provides a traffic-free link between the town centre, the Park and the eastern side of Horsham. After heavy rains, the tunnel under North Street tends to suffer from flooding, which can result in pedestrians having to retrace their steps and find alternative access via North Street.

Management Proposals

It is proposed that the following approach is adopted:

To arrange for the removal of the old Nursery School buildings and return the site to parkland, with a planned enhancement scheme, to involve:

- ✿ Replacement of some sections of formal and informal paths with a planned network of well-surfaced routes;
- ✿ A combination of new planting (both native and ornamental) and retention of the more interesting existing trees and shrubs in the area;
- ✿ Landscaping and new planting to take advantage of the raised and valley areas:

- ✿ The incorporation of the Rose Garden area into an overall landscape plan, opening a section which is currently somewhat enclosed and has room for improvement. This may involve redesigning work.
- ✿ To install an improved lighting scheme on the route between the North Street Subway and the Pavilions, in order to improve visibility at night.
- ✿ To work with the Nursery School and local families to develop a lasting memorial to the school on this site. One proposal is the creation of a reading circle.
- ✿ To investigate the feasibility of improving the drainage of the subway in order to prevent flooding.

Area 3: Parkland and Avenue between Park House and Pond



This is an area of formal parkland which is extremely popular for a variety of informal leisure activities (notably picnics and informal games in better weather) and for special events. The grass is kept short (weekly mowing in the growing season) to encourage this usage. This will be continued.

The 'Avenue' path is one of the most popular routes through the Park and will be maintained to provide a high quality surface to meet the usage it receives.



Area 4: Millennium Maze

This attraction was installed in 2000 in partnership with Horsham in Bloom as a family attraction, with low-growing hedge marking out a maze.

The maze has the theme of Sussex Legends and features a central St Leonard's dragon sculpture with additional pieces, including dragons' eggs, around the maze. The maze hedge will be maintained to a low height (under one metre) to ensure its suitability for children. The hedge requires routine small-scale management works, including some replanting to fill in gaps.

Area 5: Tea Garden and Podium

This more formal area of lawns, planting areas and pathways provides an attractive setting for the Podium, which is used as the site for a broad range of activities during the summer, including musical performers and children's entertainers. This use will be continued with the area maintained for this purpose.

A new public information board is to be installed to inform visitors of Parks events. This will

be maintained and regularly updated with information of interest to visitors.

This is an extremely busy area and there is perceived to be potential conflict between cyclists and pedestrians. It is proposed that this is designated as a pedestrian priority area, with access controls and signage installed to inform visitors of appropriate usage. It is proposed to install a chicane (similar to that outside the Park House Garden) to the south of the Podium to reinforce the message of the area being a pedestrian priority area. The issue of cycling in the Park is discussed further in Section 3.1.3.

Area 6: Park House Garden

This formal sensory garden is a popular attraction, which was installed in 1991 in collaboration between Horsham District Council and Royal & SunAlliance (formerly Sun Alliance). The area was designed as an inclusive garden with a particular focus on accessibility and meeting the needs of disabled people, with features including wide paths and wheelchair areas beside seats. The design includes plants selected for their sensory interest, such as leaf texture, flower fragrance and scented leaves. The centrepieces of this attractive garden are a sundial sculpture by John Skelton (the "Sungod") and a decorative fountain.



It is proposed to maintain the existing character of this area. The high quality of planting and landscaping will be continued to provide a colourful attraction throughout the year. During the winter of 2006/7 a refurbishment programme was carried out, which involved some major pruning and areas of replanting. Following the water shortages in recent summers, there will be an emphasis towards sustainable planting which generally requires no watering once established.

The garden is currently maintained by a skilled gardening contractor to a high standard. Every effort should be taken to ensure that maintenance to a similarly high standard is continued.

Area 7: Tennis Courts, Bowling Green and Surrounding Area

This area provides formal leisure facilities of four hard-surfaced tennis courts, available for public usage on a pay-and-play basis and one 'multi-sport' court which is available free of charge. These facilities will be maintained and managed for the foreseeable future to help meet the Council's aims for formal leisure provision in Horsham. It is proposed to improve



the multi-sports court in 2007/08 by upgrading the surface, installing new fencing and providing basketball back-boards. The tennis courts are due to be resurfaced in 2008/09.

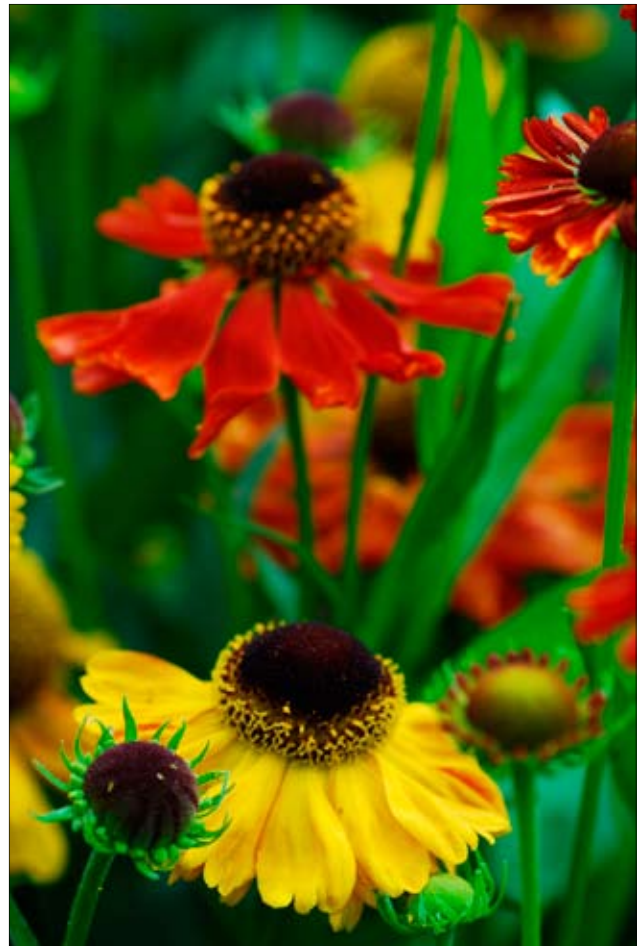
The perimeter path in this section is one of the busiest routes in the Park for pedestrians and cyclists, running east to west between the Park House entrances and North Street, past the tennis courts to the Superbowl and the Jubilee entrance. Large numbers of people use the route either as a circular route around the Park or as a cut-through. The path here has a strip of mown grass on either side, and an avenue of maturing Lime trees (planted in 1989) along the south side of the path and impressive daffodil displays in the spring. In this area there is a significant amount of trampling of the ground off each side of the path, presumably as large numbers of people pass each other. The grass cover in this area is very thin as it is shaded for much of the year by the thick canopies of the Lime trees. Along the southern boundary there is a significant amount of evergreen planting which, although it is providing an evergreen screen of the properties beyond, is also shading light from the grass. Consequently, over recent years this area has developed an unattractive barren and unmanaged appearance.

Management Proposals

This stretch of path was widened in autumn 2007 by 0.7m and designated as a shared cycle/pedestrian route to accommodate the significant number of users of this route. See **Appendix 3**.

In order to allow more light to reach the grass, an ongoing programme of tree management is required to control the canopy cover produced by the Lime trees. It is also proposed that some control is carried out on the vegetation (mainly Holly) on the southern boundary to allow more light into the area. It is proposed that while some vegetation is removed entirely, it will generally be allowed to regrow as a thicker, low screen to provide long-term screening of the properties beyond.

Following these actions, reseedling of the area with grass will be carried out, with an appropriate future cutting regime continued, with further planting of native spring bulbs suitable for the area to increase the visual appeal of this section of path.





Area 8: Bowls Green

This attractive and well loved facility is managed under lease arrangements by the Horsham Park Bowls Club with the ownership retained by Horsham District Council. The green is bounded by Beech hedging and has its own pavilion which is managed and maintained by the Bowls Club.

Area 9: Former Putting Green

This area was formerly a putting green, originally installed in 1932, but due to dwindling use the putting green was closed in 1999 and subsequently there has been limited landscaping together with the introduction of seats and picnic benches. Due to its enclosed character it has been identified as a site for quiet relaxation, although it has been recognised that limited use is currently made of this potentially attractive area.

Following local community involvement, in particular with Horsham in Bloom and the Friends of Horsham Park, there is a proposal that the site is improved to provide an enhanced landscape with attractive tree, shrub and other landscape planting. There is the potential for a themed ornamental 'Garden in the Park',

combining art and landscape. One suggestion which has strong support is the potential to include educational aspects, demonstrating the range of plants which we, as humans, depend upon in our daily lives. This has the potential to receive sponsorship funding and external grant aid. Local feedback suggests that a relatively simple design is sought, rather than the area



becoming too 'urban' a garden.

If this project is to go ahead, it would need to be demonstrated that it would be affordable to the Council, both in terms of the initial investment required and the ongoing maintenance cost. In this respect, a significant degree of external funding will be necessary.

Area 10: Jubilee Entrance and Surrounding Area



This is a busy entrance off Albion Way and the pedestrian subway is used by Park visitors as a major pedestrian/cycle through route and by people accessing the Superbowl and family entertainment centre. The area has developed over the years in an ad hoc manner and there is now a need to redesign this section of the Park to make the entrance more accessible and attractive. An outline plan is included in **Appendix 3**. There are a number of issues:

- ✿ Poorly planned car parking which gives an unattractive appearance to the area, does not make good use of the space available and may pose a safety issue to pedestrians;
- ✿ Unmarked and unclear pedestrian routes;
- ✿ Refuse bins for the premises in an unsuitable, highly visible location;
- ✿ Limited opportunities in current layout to carry out planting to soften the hard landscaping;
- ✿ Unattractive access controls at the entrance from Madeira Avenue;
- ✿ Insufficient provision of litter bins and seating.

Management Proposals

The Council has resolved that a major landscape and access improvement project be undertaken at the Jubilee Entrance involving:

- ✿ Rationalisation of parking, with a planned parking area with marked bays;
- ✿ Planning and marking of pedestrian and cycle routes to make access easier and safer;
- ✿ Installation of a more attractive entrance way, with access controls as necessary, and suitable housing for refuse bins;
- ✿ Soft landscaping through the planting of a mixture of native and ornamental trees and shrubs;
- ✿ Provision of litter bins and benches in suitable locations;
- ✿ Installation of a feature 'landmark' sculpture as set out in the 2004 'Art in the Park' study (subject to external funding).

Planning approval was gained for this project in autumn 2007. Changes are also planned for the Superbowl building, and works will need to be programmed in with the facility managers to ensure works are carried out in a coordinated manner. It is anticipated that the scheme will be implemented during 2008.

Area 11: Perimeter Path: Jubilee Entrance to North Parade Car Park

The perimeter path runs through this area from the Jubilee Entrance to North Parade car park. This area is predominantly regularly mown



grass with a number of young native deciduous trees planted in recent years. There is a strip of vegetation in places, mostly laurel, along the boundary which is screening the adjacent properties. In other places there are only metal railings, with a hard appearance and limited screening of adjacent properties.

Management Proposals

It is proposed that landscape enhancement works are carried out in the grassland areas either side of the perimeter path leading to North Parade car park. In this area the young trees have been planted at very regular intervals, giving an unnatural appearance to the planted area. The landscape value of the area would benefit if a small number of the smaller, weaker specimens were removed to leave more natural-looking clumps of planted trees, broken up by areas of open grass. Regarding the grassland in between, it is proposed that some areas are regularly mown, but other areas are left less intensively managed with only an annual Autumn cut, or biannual early Spring and Autumn cut if necessary, with removal of arisings. This management will increase wildlife value and allow native flora to develop while giving variety to the landscape. It is also proposed that native bulbs are planted in drifts along the path to add landscape value in the Spring, with species such as snowdrops, crocuses and wild daffodils.

In areas where there are only metal railings between the Park and adjacent properties, the aesthetic appeal of the perimeter path may benefit from the training of some climbing plants (e.g. Ivy) along sections of the railings.



Area 12: North Parade Car Park and Surrounding Area



The North Parade car park is conveniently located for Park visitors and is landscaped with a mixture of native and ornamental shrubs to offer a colourful welcome to Park visitors during all seasons, most notably the displays of red and yellow dogwood. This high standard of landscaping will be maintained to provide colour throughout the year. The Horsham Amateur Boxing Club building is situated within this area.

Area 13: Central Grassland, including Sports Pitches

This area accommodates six sports pitches, which are well used for football from September to April and for informal sports and other activities during the summer months. This provision will continue in order to help meet growing demand for football pitches in the Horsham area. There is potential for accommodating summer sports use (such as cricket and baseball) subject to further investigations.

There are a number of native deciduous trees planted around the pitches, including Silver Birch and Beech, and also an area of trees and rough grassland in between the pitches which provides landscape value, in the variation from the well-managed pitches, and good potential wildlife value as it is not subject to the same intensive management regime as the pitches. The trees are a mixture of native deciduous and ornamental evergreen species.

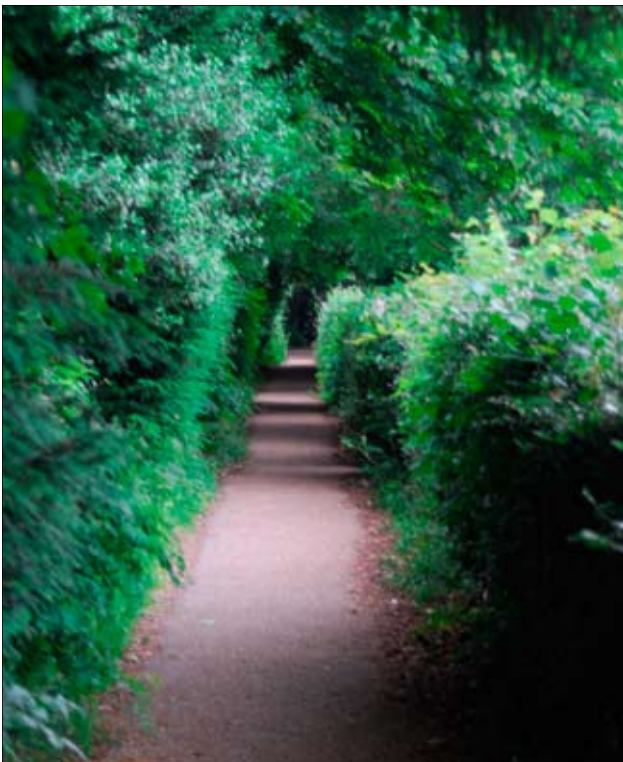
A well used path from North Parade car park entrance to the Pond crosses this area. This path would benefit significantly from widening and drainage improvements.

Management Proposals

Routine management and in particular continued drainage works are required in the heavy soils to maintain the playability of the pitches. This includes regular decompaction measures and periodical sand dressing.

It is proposed that the area of rough grassland is managed to provide the optimum habitat for grassland wildlife. This involves regularly mowing paths but managing the remainder of the grassland with only an annual Autumn cut, with arisings collected and removed from site, and the area allowed to develop with native flora during the remainder of the year. This management should have a noticeable impact in terms of an increase in native grasses and wildflowers within a few years, with a subsequent increase in native fauna (e.g. grasshoppers, butterflies) expected to follow. Reseeding of the area with native species should be unnecessary.

Future management of the trees, involving replacement or necessary removal of trees, should seek to produce clumps of trees as a more attractive and 'natural looking' alternative to the current even spacing. Any future planting should favour native species with higher wildlife value, e.g. English Oak.



Area 14: Western Boundary (Adjacent to North Parade)

This is a long straight section of the perimeter path which runs adjacent to North Parade, with a line of mature trees and fencing between the path and the road, and a second line of trees and sections of hedge between the path and the open parkland of the central grassland and sports pitches. There are also relatively recently planted young trees on the Park side of the line of hedge and trees, on the edges of the open grassland.

This is an attractive and well-used section of path, with a large number of interesting mature trees, notably Beech and Horse Chestnut. However many of these trees are now over-mature, particularly the Horse Chestnuts, which are susceptible to several species specific diseases. Several trees are already displaying symptoms of infection and associated decline. This decline may present a safety issue in the future due to the trees' close proximity to the pedestrian path and road. It is therefore anticipated an ongoing programme of tree surgery will be needed in the near future to reduce any danger of injury, or damage to property.

On the Park side of the path is a low line of hedgerow, although there are numerous gaps in the hedge.

Management Proposals

It is proposed that a planned programme of tree management is carried out to prolong the life of this tree belt for as long as possible by the means of appropriately prescribed tree surgery operations. This may result, in some instances, in trees being substantially reduced in dimensions. Unfortunately not all trees respond well to such operations, especially when diseased or naturally reaching the end of their lifespan. However, the resulting dead wood, particularly standing, provides a habitat for a huge array of other organisms; its special features making it unique as wildlife habitats and its exceptionally species-rich communities associated with wood decay. To protect this important habitat, and to hopefully encourage wildlife into the Park, wherever appropriate to do so standing dead stems will be retained.

There is a realistic chance that some trees cannot be made sufficiently safe with tree surgery, in these cases tree work should seek to remove the trees altogether. A programme of public information provision, including on-site posters and website information, is recommended to inform local residents and visitors of the rationale behind the tree works.

With the number of ageing trees in the area it is important to develop a stock of interesting and attractive trees for future generations to enjoy. Therefore an ongoing programme of new tree planting is proposed, with a mix of native and ornamental species planted in clumps along the Park side of the path and in gaps between the path and road where these become available in the future.

Area 15: Northern Boundary: West (adjacent to Hurst Road, including Hurst Road Entrance)



In this section the perimeter path runs adjacent and close to the Park boundary, with Horsham Hospital and properties in Parkside beyond the boundary. In between is a strip of woodland which contains a number of mature trees and a low-growing understorey of Holly and other native plants. This woodland provides visual screening to the neighbouring properties as well as habitat for wildlife, including nesting birds, which can be viewed from the boundary path. On the Park side of the path is a low line of hedgerow.

There is an informal access route from Parkfield into the Park and, adjacent, a drainage culvert, which opens for a few metres alongside the Park boundary, before becoming a closed culvert again to link with the Horsham Park Pond. This section is prone to flooding after heavy rainfall. This area is also somewhat screened, and is considered by some visitors to be a site for potential antisocial activities.

Management Proposals

It is proposed that the woodland strip along the Park boundary is managed in the future to maintain a visual screen to the properties beyond the Park boundary. This will be done by rotationally cutting areas of the low-growing vegetation so that it remains low-growing and dense. If left unmanaged the vegetation will become taller and less dense and views will open to the properties beyond. Maintaining the dense nature of the vegetation will also enhance its value for wildlife, particularly nesting birds, that will favour a mixture of mature trees and regenerating scrub over an area of maturing vegetation. Suitable rotational management would involve cutting pockets of scrub each year (on an 8 - 10 year rotation) and allowing cut areas to regrow.

It is proposed that the line of hedgerow is managed through a combination of new planting of native hedgerow species in gaps and laying of thicker and more mature sections of the hedge (see Area 14).

The informal access route from Parkside will be maintained as a low-key and un-surfaced entrance to the Park.

Regular inspection and maintenance will be carried out to ensure that the culvert is maintained free of debris to reduce any flooding risk.

There is high pressure on dog bins in this section and it is important that they are regularly emptied.



Area 16: Skatepark

The highly popular skatepark was installed in 2001 for Horsham's young people to take part in informal streetsports in a dedicated area, specifically designed for this purpose and which would have the least impact on other Park users. The skatepark was extended and improved in 2005/06. It is the Council's view that the facility has met these aims, and the facility will be maintained for the foreseeable future. The facility is maintained in consultation with a skatepark user group, with representatives from the young people who use the area.

Area 17: Northern Boundary: East (Skatepark to Children's Play Area)

One feature of interest in this area is the standing trunk of a dead tree in the grassland off the perimeter path. Dead wood is a valuable habitat for a variety of wildlife and this approach of retaining as much dead wood as is appropriate should be continued. This tree

also serves as a post on which an orienteering control is mounted as part of the Park's orienteering course.

At the junction between the perimeter path near the play area and the path leading southwards to the pond there are clear desire lines to the east and west. Rationalisation to provide surfaced links to the Pond path would be beneficial in this area.



Area 18: Children's Play Area



The Children's Play Area is the premier play facility in the Horsham District and families travel many miles to visit and enjoy its facilities. It is the most popular single facility within the Park.

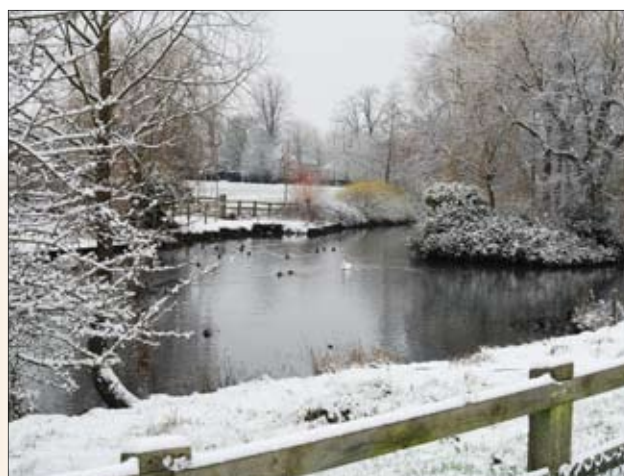
Perhaps the success of the play area is its appeal to the whole family through its attractive landscape as well as carefully selected play features. Incorporated into the play area is an educational, water efficient garden, live willow sculptures and several wooden sculptures, including the distinctive totem pole with carved faces and several bridges, which were commissioned in 2003. A swing meeting the needs of disabled children was installed in the spring of 2007.

Management Proposals

Continued planning is required to ensure the area will be maintained in the long-term, with replacement of equipment as appropriate, to continue to provide a popular attraction, with exciting, innovative and safe equipment for children up to the age of 14 years. The play area will also continue to be subject to a rigorous inspection system to maintain the highest standards of safety.

Area 19: Horsham Park Pond

The pond is a very attractive and popular area, providing a contrasting feature in the middle of a landscape consisting of more formal parkland and sports pitches. The area containing the pond and surrounding vegetation is fenced, with a restriction on dog access. The vegetation is a combination of native and ornamental species. The pond itself is home to a large number of waterfowl, notably ducks and swans, and feeding these birds is a popular family activity. The feeding of the birds comes with a price; that of the risk of rats being drawn to the area. Despite considerable efforts, the control of the vermin has been a continued challenge. In 2006 special attention to removing cover and shelter for vermin was given, and this does appear to have decreased the scale of this problem.



Management Proposals

It is proposed to open up additional sight lines into the pond to allow the area to be viewed from adjacent pathways.

It is important to note that the number of waterfowl currently present is not sustainable for a pond of this size. This will significantly limit the wildlife and landscape value of the pond. The large numbers will heavily graze vegetation on the pond margins, feed on much of the smaller wildlife and the pond will tend to fill up from waterfowl waste and uneaten bread with a subsequent decline in water quality. It must be recognised, therefore, that in this situation the pond will support limited marginal vegetation, low numbers of wildlife such as dragonflies and water beetles, and will require regular de-silting. Nonetheless the presence of these birds is a major attraction for visitors and any control would be inappropriate (and probably impossible).

It is expected that the pond will require desilting, with spoil spread on site, by around 2010/11. This will be necessary to prevent the pond from filling entirely with silt and debris, and eventually drying out.

Vermin control will be a continued priority.

6.0 Resources

6.1 Revenue Costs

The Council approves an annual revenue budget for the day-to-day management and maintenance of Horsham Park.

A specific revenue budget cost centre exists for Horsham Park; the approved budget for 2007/8 is included as **Appendix 4**.

While funding levels continue to be tight, general maintenance standards, including small scale enhancements are able to be maintained.

6.2 Capital Projects

Approved specific large scale projects which take place from time to time are not included as part of the revenue budget but are included as part of the Council's capital spending programme.

The Council seeks whenever possible to supplement its own spending by seeking streams of external funding. Some of the larger funding streams available to parks generally are usually prioritised according to the levels of deprivation in the area. Since Horsham is in the favoured position of not having any wards identified as deprived, this also works against the Council reducing the prospect of significant funding being available for substantial projects from sources such as the Heritage Lottery Fund. Funding towards public art projects in the Park will be sought from the Arts Council for England.

6.3 Other Sources of Grant Aid / Sponsorship



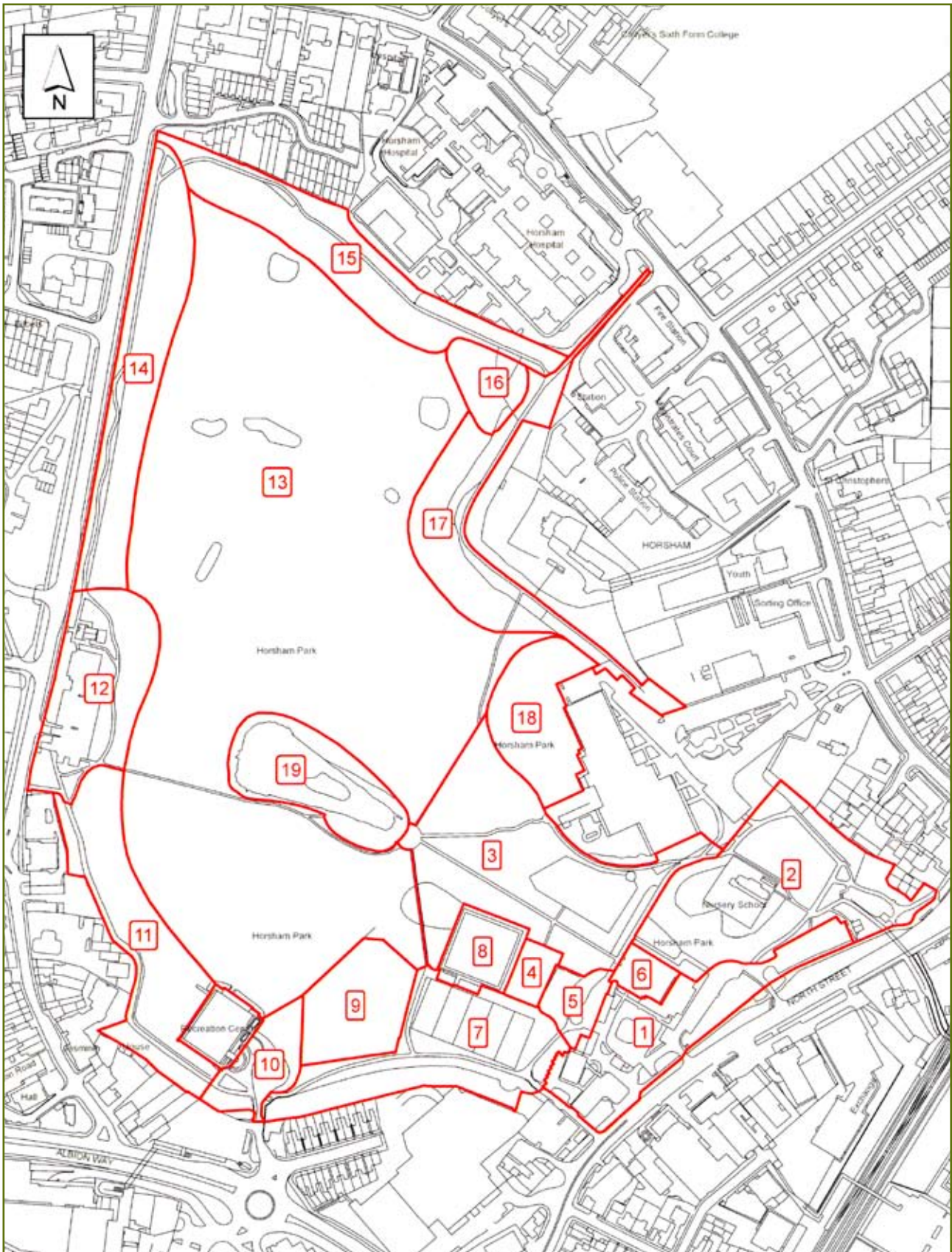
The Council has the potential to access streams of external funding for environmental initiatives when bids are made by third party organisations, such as the Friends of Horsham Park and Horsham in Bloom. This includes Landfill Tax schemes, Awards for All and Changing Spaces (the latter two schemes are Lottery funded). There is the potential to also fund enhancements from developer contributions (Section 106) received for community facilities. This is generally only relevant where development has taken place in the locality.

6.4 Programme of Key Works

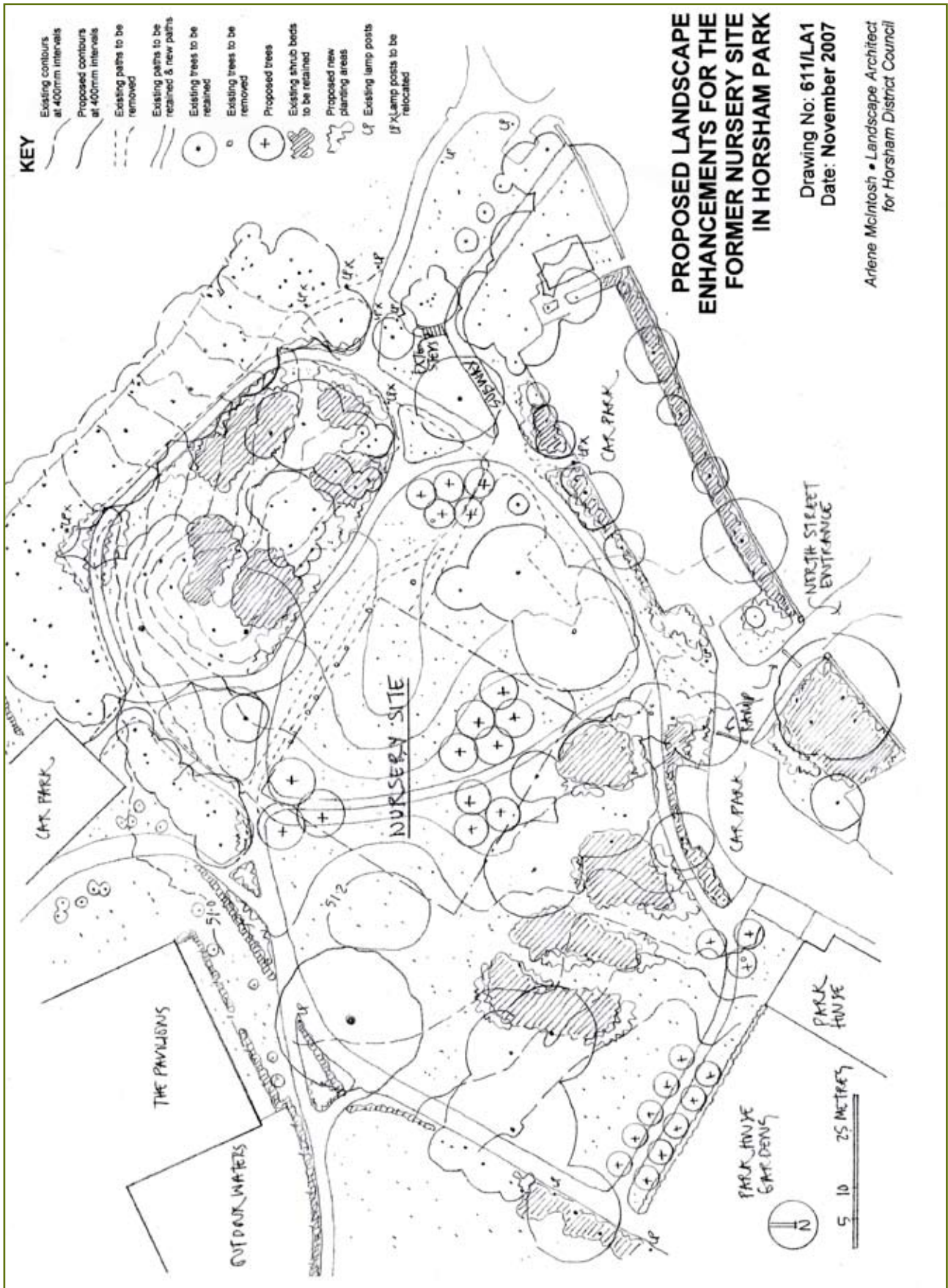
	Work / Project		Estimated Cost	Funding Source(s)
1	Pond Dredging	2010/11	£18,000	Capital Bid
2	Skate Park Major Planned Repairs Replacement of Units	2009/10 2014/15	£8,000 £15,000	Revenue Budgets External Funding
3	Information Boards	2007/8	£1,500	Revenue Budgets
4	Replacement of Trim Trail	2008/9	£12,000	Revenue Budgets
5	Jubilee Entrance Improvement Scheme		£290,000	Approved Capital Budget
6	Enhancement of Nursery School Site	2008/9	Pathways £15,000 Lighting £12,000 Landscaping £15,000	WSCC Capital Bid External Funding
7	Former Putting Green	2008- 2010	£100,000	Revenue Budget £15,000 (over 2 years) Horsham in Bloom £15,000 Novartis £20,000 (via Horsham in Bloom) External Funding bids
8	Widen path between North Parade and Pond. Widen Path: Council offices to Superbowl Rationalise perimeter paths	2008/9 2007/8 2009/10	£8,000 £40,000 £8,000	Revenue Budgets Approved Capital Budget Revenue Budget
9	Construction of Ball Court	2007/8	£18,000	Approved Capital Budget Revenue Budgets
10	Sports Pitch Drainage Improvements	2008/9	£25,000	Approved Capital Budget
11	Public Art Projects	2007/8 2008/9	£70,000	Approved Capital Budget (£20,000) External Funding
12	Extension of CCTV	2008/9	£12,000	Approved Capital Budget
13	Lighting North Street Subway to Pavilions	2008/9	£6,000	Approved Capital Budget

7.0 Appendices

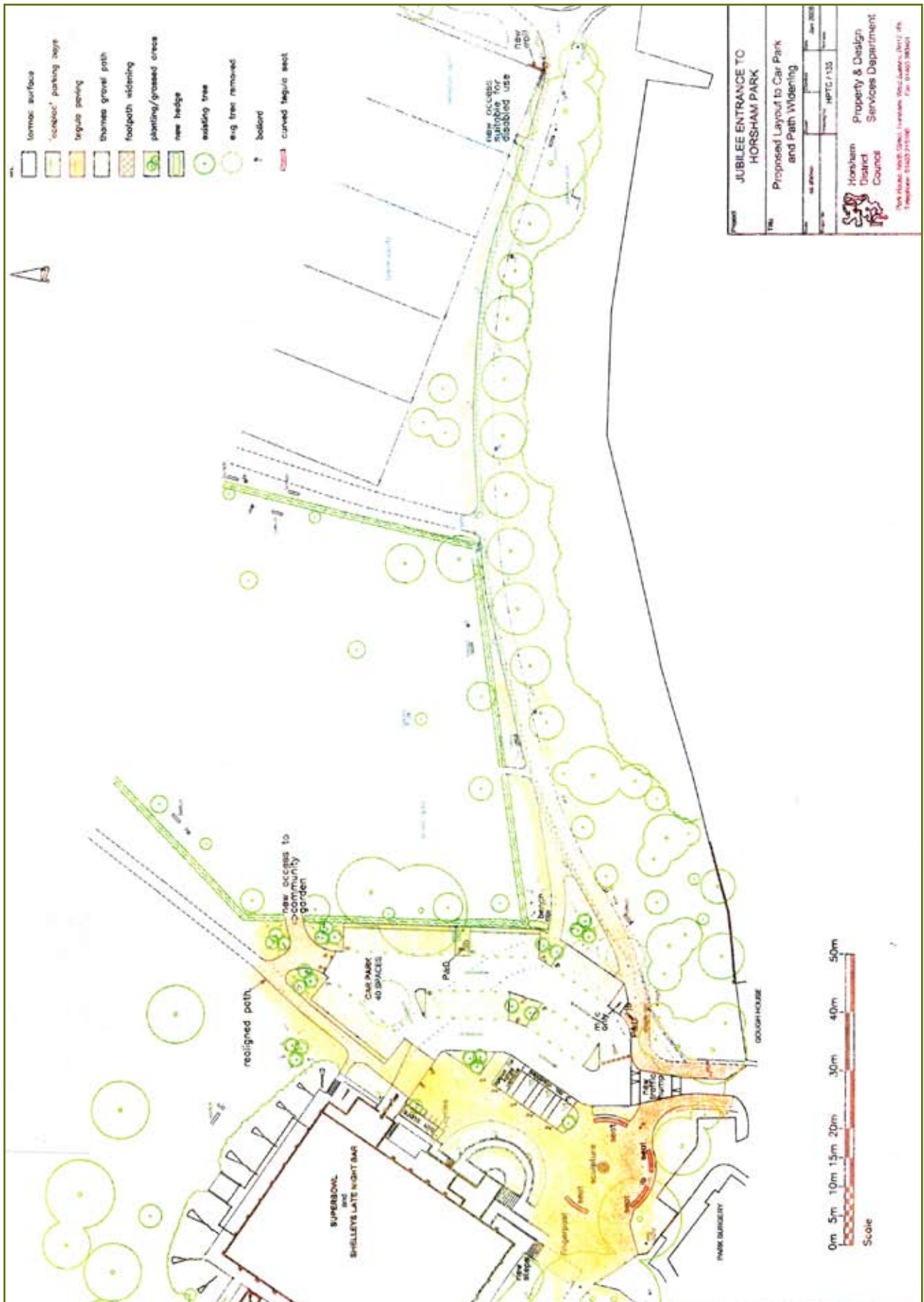
APPENDIX 1: Horsham Park - Compartments



APPENDIX 2: Outline plan of Nursery School Area



APPENDIX 3: Tennis Courts, Bowling Green and Surrounding Area



APPENDIX 4:

**HORSHAM PARK - REVENUE BUDGETS
2007/8 (Operational Costs and Income)**

COSTS	Annual Budget £
GEN WKS/ FAB - OTHER INT WORKS	1000
GEN WKS/ SERV - OTHER SERV WKS	3650
LANDSCAPE WORKS	26330
GRD MAINT - TREE PLANTING & M	7290
GRD MAINT - OTHER PLANTING & M	7000
GRASS CUTTING -EXTERNAL	11900
R/P/CP&P - GENERAL REPAIRS & M	0
VANDALISM	1190
GENERAL WORKS - CONTRACT	4000
ELECTRICITY	2000
CLIMATE CHANGE LEVY	100
WATER - METERED	110
WATER - UNMETERED	280
CONTRACT CLEANING	0
R&R CONT BUILDINGS	0
EQUIPMENT & TOOLS-PURCHASE	2300
GENERAL MATERIALS	1400
PURCHASE OF PROVISIONS	440
MISCELLANEOUS INSURANCES	1370
COURT COSTS	120
GROSS OPERATIONAL COST	70480
INCOME	
MISCELLANEOUS RENTS	5010
SPORTS PITCH HIRE	4550
LEGAL EXPENSES RECLAIMED	380
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	3230
TOTAL INCOME	13170
NET OPERATIONAL COST	<u>57310</u>



